In 1933 I was in Washington while the Philippine Mission was there marking time until the arrival of the Quezon Mission. I was permitted to receive in confidence the views of the Mission and of Congressional leaders. I was much impressed by the sincerity of the attitude of the Filipino representatives. They had encountered a hard situation and had been able to surmount great difficulties. Men like Senators Hawes and Pittman generously conceded that the success obtained had been due in great part to the aptitude and restraint shown by the Philippine Mission. I even learned that Senator Osmena had it in mind when the law should be accepted by his people to retire from public office, content to know that his purpose in life had been fulfilled. I do not think that he and those with him were actuated by selfish ambitions.

The Philippine Commonwealth and Independence Law was obtained not through the efforts of one man or two men, but through the efforts of many individuals.

SUMMARY OF THE PHILIPPINE COMMONWEALTH AND INDEPENDENCE LAW [2]

I have termed the Act of Congress of March 24, 1934, the Philippine Commonwealth and Independence Law because that title is indicative of its two main purposes. A transition period of ten years was contemplated, and during this time there was to be a Philippine Commonwealth. Thereafter, there was to be a Philippine Republic. The Act of Congress was in the nature of an enabling act to secure these two purposes.

The law enumerates the steps leading to

Philippine independence. These are: (i) acceptance of the lawj (2) the calling by the Legislature of a constitutional convention to meet not later than October I, 19345 (3) submission of the constitution to the President of the United States within two years, that is, not later than March 24, 1936 j (4) submission of the

[2] See Appendix I for the law in full.